

The Urban District of Esher



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year Ended December 31st

1948

Urban District of Esher

ANNUAL REPORT
of the Health and
Sanitary Conditions
for the Year 1948

JAMES BRYAN MORWOOD, M.B., F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

REGINALD F. WHEELER, M.R.San.I.,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : COUNCILLOR MRS. BETTS.

COUNCILLOR V. J. BULLETT
" A. H. M. FIELD
" D. MOON
" J. T. O'BRIEN, J.P.
" C. S. PADLEY

COUNCILLOR MRS. PEARSON
" E. ROYSTON PIKE
" I. TODD
" MRS. WILSON
" A. W. P. YOUNG

Ex-Officio Members :

COUNCILLOR R. W. JUDGE, J.P. (*Chairman of the Council*).

COUNCILLOR E. W. WALTERS (*Vice-Chairman of the Council*).

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Personnel

J. B. MORWOOD, M.B., F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H. (appointed 1/3/48).

J. FANNING, M.D., B.S. (*Lond.*), D.P.H. (resigned 28/2/48).

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

*REGINALD F. WHEELER, M.R.SAN.I., A.M.I.S.E., M.S.I.A.,
Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector and
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

*JOHN C. ARMSTRONG, M.S.I.A., CERT. R.SAN.I.,
Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Sanitary Inspector and
Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

*FRANK L. BARKER, M.S.I.A.,
Certificate of the R.S.I. and S.I. Joint Board as Sanitary Inspector.
Certificates of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and
other Foods, and in Sanitary Science.

Nurse :

MISS V. DAWSON, S.R.N.

Clerks :

MISS S. H. BRIDGMAN.

MRS. M. J. FELL (resigned 31/3/48).

C. F. PACKHAM (resigned 28/12/48).

MISS KURN (appointed 1/3/48).

MISS P. HARVEY (resigned 31/1/48).

Mortuary Keeper and Disinfectors :

J. DOLLEY.

Clerk and Solicitor of the Council :

FREDERICK EDWARDS.

Public Analyst :

D. D. MOIR, M.SC., F.R.I.C.

*Contribution of salary made from the Exchequer.

Urban District of Esher

COUNCIL OFFICES.

ESHER.

May, 1949.

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Urban District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1948, which has been prepared in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 3/49, dated 17th January, 1949.

The vital statistics for the district, which are included in the text of the report, are again satisfactory and compare very well with those of the country as a whole.

There have been several changes in the department during the year. Dr. J. Fanning left to become Deputy Medical Officer of Health to the Surrey County Council and I was appointed in his place on the 1st of March. Mrs. M. J. Fell left on the 31st March to emigrate with her family to South Africa and Mr. C. F. Packham resumed his appointment as general clerk on the 18th May, 1948. In July, 1948, Mr. Packham obtained the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and the Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board and resigned on the 28th December, 1948, to take up the appointment of District Sanitary Inspector with the Manchester Corporation. Miss E. J. Kurn replaced Miss M. Harvey on the 1st March, 1948, as junior clerk.

In spite of these changes the work has gone on most efficiently. My thanks are due to all members of the department for their co-operation during the year, which has been a very successful one from the Public Health point of view. My thanks are also due to the members of the Council and the chief officers and staffs of the other departments for the very friendly and hospitable way in which they have welcomed me in my new appointment.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. B. MORWOOD, M.B., F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	14,847
Registrar General's estimate of resident population ...	50,790
Number of inhabited houses—end of 1948—according to rate books	14,472
Rateable Value	£665,304
Product of a penny rate 1948/49	£2,695

Extracts from Vital Statistics:—

	Total.	M.	F.
Live Births	816	420	396
Legitimate		410	377
Illegitimate		10	19
Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—16.1.			

	Total.	M.	F.
Still Births	20	8	12
Legitimate		7	10
Illegitimate		1	2
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births—23.92.			

	Total.	M.	F.
Deaths	480	236	244
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population—9.4.			

Deaths from puerperal causes:—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Total (Live & Still Births.
Puerperal sepsis	Nil	Nil
Other Maternal Causes	1	1.20

Death rate of infants under 1 year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	18.4
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	19.1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

BIRTHS.

During the year 816 live births were registered, this being 120 less than last year's total. The rate per 1,000 population was 16.1 compared with an average of 17.9 for England and Wales.

Of the total number 29 or 3.6% were illegitimate.

DEATHS.

During the year 480 deaths were registered, being 51 less than in 1947. The death rate was 9.4 per 1,000 compared with the average of 10.8 for England and Wales. The infantile mortality rate was 18.4 per 1,000 live births and compares with 34 for the average of England and Wales.

CAUSES OF DEATH

	M.	F.	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	—	1
3. Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis—respiratory	7	—	7
7. Other Tuberculosis	3	3	6
8. Syphilitic diseases	3	2	5
9. Influenza	1	1	2
10. Measles	—	—	—
11. Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	—	—	—
12. Acute inf. encephalitis	—	—	—
13. Cancer [of buccal cavity; and œsophagus (m): uterus (f)]	7	5	12
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	5	2	7
15. Cancer of breast	—	8	8
16. Cancer of all other sites	33	39	72
17. Diabetes	2	1	3
18. Intra-cranial vascular lesions	20	37	57
19. Heart disease	69	67	136
20. Other circulatory diseases	9	10	19
21. Bronchitis	10	4	14
22. Pneumonia	10	14	24
23. Other respiratory diseases	5	3	8
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	3	5
25. Diarrhœa under 2 years	—	2	2
26. Appendicitis	1	—	1
27. Other digestive diseases	6	5	11
28. Nephritis	5	3	8
29. Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	—	—	—
30. Other maternal causes	—	1	1
31. Premature birth	1	—	1
32. Congenital debility	3	4	7
33. Suicide	5	3	8
34. Road traffic accidents	5	2	7
35. Other violent causes	2	5	7
36. All other causes	21	20	41
Totals	236	244	480

DEATHS.—AGE GROUPS.

Under		80 &																				
1	...	1—5	...	5—15	...	15—25	...	25—35	...	35—45	...	45—55	...	55—65	...	65—80	...	over	...	Total		
MALES	...	10	...	1	...	3	...	2	...	7	...	12	...	18	...	43	...	101	...	39	...	236
FEMALES	...	4	...	1	...	2	...	4	...	5	...	9	...	19	...	26	...	99	...	75	...	244
TOTALS	...	14	...	2	...	5	...	6	...	12	...	21	...	37	...	69	...	200	...	114	...	480

STATEMENT SHOWING WHERE DEATHS OCCURRED.

In District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tolworth Isolation Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kingston County Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
London and other hospitals outside district	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Died in other districts	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL							480

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1948. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 C.Bs. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000 —50,000 1931 Census	London Adm. County
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population :—				
Births :				
Live Births	17.9 *	20.0	19.2	20.1
Still Births	0.42 *	0.52	0.43	0.39
Deaths :				
All Causes	10.8 *	11.6	10.7	11.6
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Tuberculosis	0.51	0.59	0.46	0.63
Influenza	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.54
Notifications (corrected):				
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Scarlet Fever	1.73	1.90	1.82	1.37
Whooping Cough ...	3.42	3.51	3.31	3.13
Diphtheria	0.08	0.10	0.09	0.10
Erysipelas	0.21	0.23	0.21	0.22
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	9.34	9.75	8.84	9.17
Pneumonia	0.73	0.84	0.60	0.57
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04
Acute Polioencephalitis	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rates per 1,000 Live Births :—				
Deaths :				
All causes under 1 year of age	34 †	39	32	31
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	3.3	4.5	2.1	2.4
Notifications (corrected):				
Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births :—				
Puerperal Fever & Pyrexia	6.89	8.90	4.71	7.34 ‡

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales

	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million women aged 15-44
140 Abortion with Sepsis	0.11	9
141 Abortion without Sepsis	0.05	4
147 Puerperal Infections	0.13	
142-146, 148-150 Other Maternal Causes	0.73	

* Rates per 1,000 total population.

† Per 1,000 related births.

‡ In London Puerperal Fever alone was 0.61.

SUMMARY OF BIRTH, INFANTILE MORTALITY AND DEATH RATES FOR THE PAST SIX YEARS.

Year.		Births.		Infantile Mortality.		Deaths.
1943	...	17.8	...	31.0	...	11.3
1944	...	17.8	...	24.6	...	11.8
1945	...	15.6	...	35.8	...	11.1
1946	...	17.8	...	26.7	...	10.5
1947	...	18.8	...	24.5	...	10.7
1948	...	16.1	...	18.4	...	9.4

The number of bodies received into the public mortuary was as follows:

For post-mortem examination and inquest	...	..	15
For post-mortem examination only	...	...	29
			—
			44

RAINFALL

Table showing rainfall in the district during 1948, taken at the Sewage Farm, Esher :—

January	...	...	...	...	...	3.18	ins.
February	...	...	...	...	...	0.85	..
March	...	...	...	...	...	0.61	..
April	...	...	...	...	...	1.07	..
May	...	...	...	...	...	1.75	..
June	...	...	...	...	...	2.27	..
July	...	...	...	...	...	0.84	..
August	...	...	...	...	...	3.19	..
September	...	...	...	...	...	1.12	..
October	...	...	...	...	...	1.83	..
November	..	...	...	...	...	1.43	..
December	...	...	...	...	...	2.53	..
Total						20.67	ins.

Compared with the figures for the previous year this is an increase of 1.29 inches.

Average yearly rainfall for the past 5 years: 22.223.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1948

DISEASES	Totals	Under 1		AGE GROUPS										Over 65	
		1	2	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65	Over
Scarlet Fever	48	—	2	2	3	3	9	18	7	2	1	1	1	1	1
Pneumonia	19	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	3	6	6
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Suspected Food Poisoning	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	483	7	39	40	40	42	55	257	26	6	8	2	3	1	1
Whooping Cough	272	18	22	27	27	35	30	125	7	—	4	1	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	37	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	8	—	8	8	8	2	2
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	8	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	1	1
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	880	28	64	73	73	80	97	400	51	9	27	19	20	12	12

DISEASES

WARDS

DISEASES	Totals	Thames		Long		Esher	Clay- gate	Cobham	Stoke d'		East Molesey	West Molesey		Down- side	Hinch- ley	Wood
		Ditton	Ditton	Ditton	Ditton				Abernon	Abernon						
Scarlet Fever	48	16	—	1	—	2	5	2	—	—	9	12	—	—	1	1
Pneumonia	19	3	—	—	—	3	4	1	1	—	2	4	—	—	1	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	6	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suspected Food Poisoning	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	483	82	71	71	71	108	31	56	22	52	52	27	—	—	34	34
Whooping Cough	272	44	44	44	44	37	32	36	7	30	30	27	—	—	15	15
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	37	6	4	4	4	1	4	4	3	4	4	9	—	—	2	2
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	8	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	880	155	120	120	120	154	78	105	33	97	84	84	—	—	54	54

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Scarlet Fever.—The number of cases of scarlet fever notified during the year was again comparatively low, 48 cases. This is a rate of 0.95 per 1,000 population. Almost all the cases were very mild indeed and there were no deaths; 15 cases were treated at home and 33 cases were removed to hospital. There were two cases in each of seven families and the remainder were single cases in a family. Most of the cases occurred in Thames Ditton and East and West Molesey.

Cerebro-spinal Fever.—There were two cases of cerebro-spinal fever. Both were admitted to Kingston Hospital. One of the cases, a male aged 37, was transferred to Tolworth Isolation Hospital, where he died.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—There has only been one case of acute poliomyelitis. The patient, a boy aged 2, recovered without any serious disability.

Diphtheria.—Once again it is very satisfactory to report that no case of diphtheria was reported during the year. The immunisation campaign is being carried out energetically and in addition to the schools which have been visited previously, all the remaining private schools have been contacted with a view to immunisation either by the Medical Officer of Health or by the school's own doctor. Details of the numbers of children immunised during the year are as follows :—

Number of primary immunisations carried out by Medical Officer of Health	616
Number of primary immunisations carried out by private doctors	115
Number of children receiving reinforcing doses by Medical Officer of Health	1,171
Number of children receiving reinforcing doses by private doctors	156

Measles.—Measles again has been very prevalent during the year, a total of 483 cases being notified. This compares with 626 cases last year. The majority of the cases occurred in Esher, Thames Ditton and Long Ditton. There were no deaths.

Twenty-seven requests were received from practitioners for prophylactic serum. This serum is of value in protecting very young or delicate contacts against the disease.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF ESHER.

Case rate
per 1,000 pop.

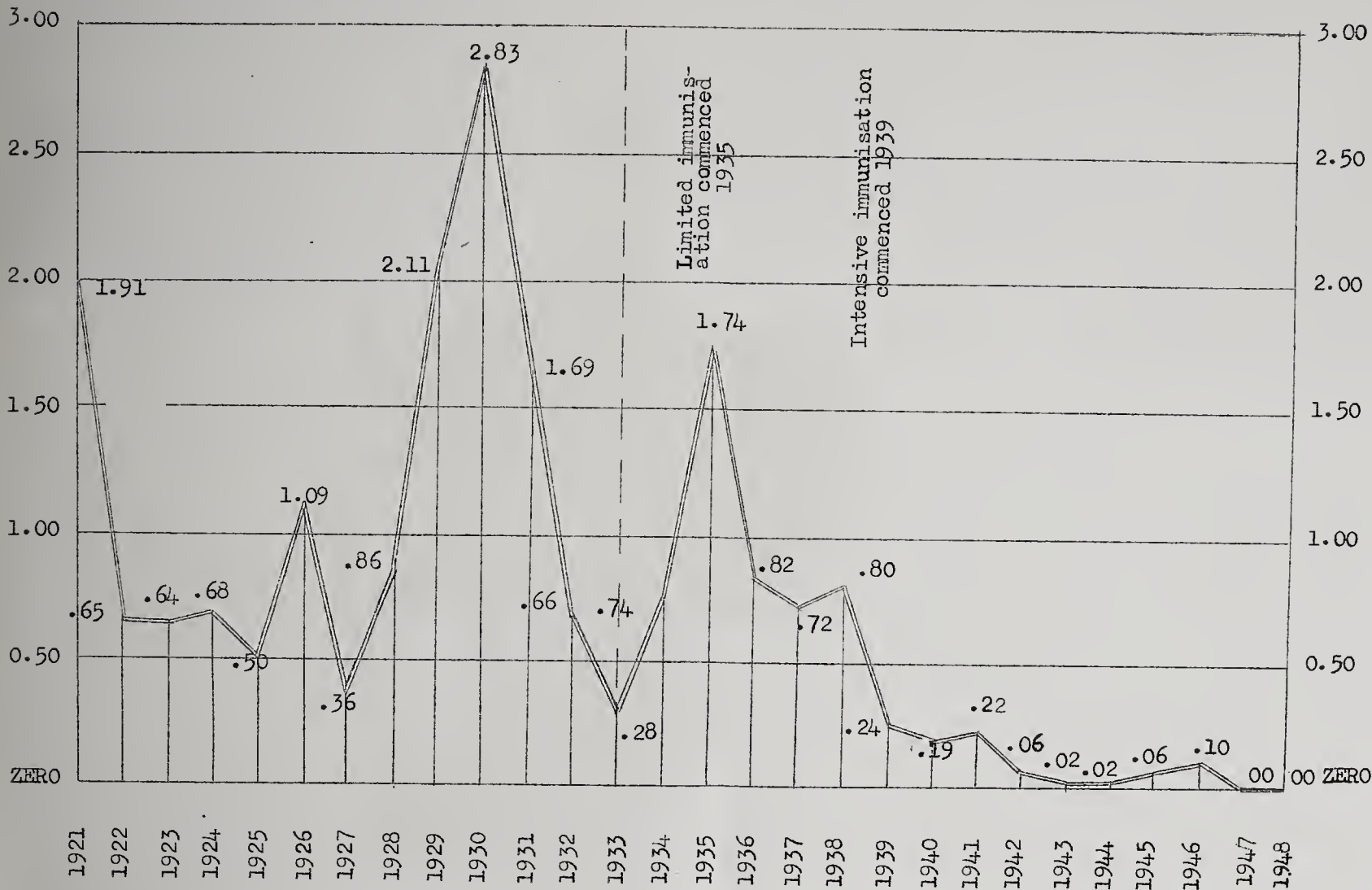
Diphtheria Case rate per 1,000 population.

1921 - 1933

including only Esher and Dittons,
and E. and W. Molesey U.D.C's.

1933 - 1948

the enlarged Esher Urban District
from 1933



Whooping Cough.—The number of notified cases of whooping cough was 272. This is a much larger figure than in any year since 1941, but it is probable that it is due to a higher notification rate owing to reminders sent out to doctors rather than to a greatly increased incidence of the disease.

Malaria.—One interesting case of malaria was reported. Like the two cases reported last year there was a very considerable interval between being bitten by the infected mosquito and actually getting the disease. In this case the patient must have become infected in Cairo on or before the 16th November, 1947, but he did not become ill with malaria until the 20th August, 1948. He made a good recovery after treatment.

Scabies.—The scheme for the treatment of scabies in operation in this district continued successfully. Once again there was a considerable reduction in the number of cases reported.

During 1948, 64 persons from 15 families received treatment. Of these 32 persons from 15 families showed definite lesions, the remainder being contacts in the same family.

Verminous Conditions.—Cases of infestation by the head louse were referred to the Department from various sources from time to time and were treated by the Public Health Nurse. 14 cases were treated in this manner. Working in close co-operation with the school authorities, homes have been visited and families have been treated as a whole for verminous conditions. This has led to a marked improvement in the cleanliness of schoolchildren.

No cases of body louse infestation came to notice.

WORK OF PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

The duties of this officer include assistance with diphtheria immunisation, the treatment of scabies and other verminous conditions, routine infectious disease enquiries, the supervision of infectious cases treated at home, the following up of cases discharged from the isolation hospital and various other useful functions. The following is a record of certain aspects of the work done during the year :—

Home visits in connection with infectious disease ...	483
Attendances at diphtheria immunisation sessions ...	100
Number of treatments given for scabies	64
Number of treatments for other verminous conditions ...	14

Tuberculosis.—

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1948.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	5	3	—	2	—	—	2	1
25	6	2	—	1	2	—	—	1
35	6	2	1	—	2	—	—	—
45	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
55	2	2	—	—	1	—	1	—
65 upw'ds	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	1
TOTAL	25	12	2	6	7	—	3	3

One case of tuberculous meningitis came to notice after death. This was a death transferable from another area.

There was a decrease in the number of new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis. There was also a decrease in the death rate, which has fallen below the pre-war figure and compares very favourably with the rate for England and Wales.

TUBERCULOSIS

Year	Estimated Population	New Cases		Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary	
		No.	Rate per 1,000 population	No.	Rate per 1,000 population	No.	Rate per 1,000 population
1939	44,290	36	0.81	5	0.11	12	0.27
1940	45,270	31	0.68	4	0.08	25	0.55
1941	45,310	36	0.79	5	0.11	21	0.46
1942	45,540	35	0.76	8	0.17	18	0.39
1943	44,960	46	1.02	12	0.26	22	0.48
1944	43,200	50	1.15	14	0.32	18	0.41
1945	44,060	41	0.93	11	0.24	22	0.49
1946	48,140	31	0.64	7	0.14	16	0.33
1947	49,610	43	0.86	8	0.16	18	0.36
1948	50,790	37	0.73	8	0.15	7	0.14
						6	0.12

At the end of the year the following number of cases remained on the tuberculosis register :—

	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
Males	130	24
Females	96	33
	<hr/> 226 <hr/>	<hr/> 57 <hr/>

CASES REMOVED TO TOLWORTH ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Broncho Pneumonia	4
Cerebro-Spinal Fever (transferred from Kingston County Hospital)	1
Chicken Pox	8
Diphtheria (not confirmed)	1
Drug Rash	1
Encephalitis	1
Enteritis	7
Erysipelas	3
Food Poisoning	1
Impetigo	1
Influenza	2
Measles	21
Meningism	1
Pharyngitis	1
Pneumonia	1
Poliomyelitis	1
Scarlet Fever (4 not confirmed)	33
Streptococcal Tonsillitis	1
T.B. Meningitis	1
Tonsillitis	3
Whooping Cough	13

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE REMOVED TO HOSPITALS OTHER THAN TOLWORTH

Acute Pneumonia	1
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2
Malaria	1

NUMBER OF NOTIFICATIONS RECEIVED YEARLY
DURING THE PAST SEVEN YEARS

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
Scarlet Fever	114	342	73	59	48	40	48
Diphtheria	3	1	1	3	5	—	—
Erysipelas	2	2	4	5	4	3	6
Pneumonia	44	15	9	3	15	11	19
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	4	4	1	3	1	2	2
Dysentery	1	2	10	32	12	—	2
Paratyphoid	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	4	2	2	—	1	—
Measles	328	220	47	754	95	626	483
Whooping Cough	33	92	96	48	128	45	272
Tuberculosis (all forms) ...	43	58	64	52	38	51	45
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	—	1	—	—	1	6	1
Induced Malaria	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	1	—	—	2	1
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suspected Food Poisoning	5	22	5	—	26	40	1

	Scarlet Fever	Pneumonia	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia	Dysentery	Suspected Food Poisoning	Acute Poliomyelitis	Malaria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis	Totals
January ...	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	61	15	—	2	—	86
February ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	18	—	—	—	44
March ...	5	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	13	33	—	7	1	63
April ...	3	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	27	42	—	1	1	77
May ...	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	57	15	—	3	1	79
June ...	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	77	29	—	8	—	120
July ...	5	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	88	26	—	1	3	127
August ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	17	—	3	1	49
September ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	1	1	8
October ...	9	1	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	1	34	—	3	—	51
November ...	9	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	10	17	—	5	—	42
December ...	3	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	103	23	—	3	—	134
Total ...	48	19	2	6	—	2	1	1	1	483	272	—	37	8	880

CASE RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	England and Wales.	Urban District of Esher.
Diphtheria	0.08	—
Scarlet Fever	1.73	0.95
Typhoid	0.01	—
Paratyphoid	0.01	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	0.03	0.04
Whooping Cough	3.42	5.03
Measles	9.34	9.05
*Puerperal Pyrexia	6.89	—

* Per 1,000 total births (i.e., live and still births).

SCHOOLS

The number of children attending the County Schools and on the rolls at 31st March, 1948, was :—

Name of School.	No. on roll
Claygate County Primary J.M.	119
Claygate County Primary Infants'	75
Cobham C.E. Secondary	225
Cobham C.E. Primary J.M.	208
Cobham County Primary Infants'	164
Cobham Downside C.E. Primary	47
East Molesey C.E. Primary J.B.	151
East Molesey C.E. Primary J.G.	159
East Molesey County Primary Infants'	136
Esher C.E. Primary J.M.	146
Esher C.E. Infants'	109
Hinchley Wood County Secondary Mixed	893
Long Ditton C.E. Primary Junior Mixed	179
Long Ditton County Primary Infants'	137
Molesey County Secondary Boys	309
Molesey County Secondary Girls	255
Oxshott C.E. Primary J.M.	70
Thames Ditton County Primary J.M.	249
Thames Ditton County Primary Infants'	104
West Molesey County Primary J.M.	306
West Molesey County Primary Infants'	320
	<hr/> 4,361 <hr/>

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The Staff of the Public Health Department is set out at the beginning of this report.

The provision of health services in the area remains substantially unaltered from that set out in recent annual reports.

The following table shows the number of pathological examinations during the year under review :—

Disease					Total Number
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	Sputa	58
Streptococcal Diseases	...	...	...	Swabs	41
Diphtheria	...	...	...	Swabs	73
Dysentery	...	...	...	Fæces	16
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	...	...	...	Fæces	4
				Urine	3
Gastro-Enteritis	...	...	...	Fæces	7
				Vomit	1
				Food Specimens	4
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	Cough Plate	1
				Nasal Swab	1
					<hr/> 209

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. *Water*.—The water supply provided by the two main undertakers who supply the district has remained above suspicion.

The regular inspection and sampling of wells in use in the rural parts of the district were continued, and six samples of water from such sources were submitted for bacteriological examination.

2. *Drainage and Sewerage and Sewage Disposal*.—No extension of the sewage treatment plant at any of the Council's three works has been carried out during the year and no new sewers have been laid other than those serving the Council's new housing estates.

3. *Rivers and Streams*.—Attention continues to be given to keeping the public watercourses free from obstruction and pollution.

PREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :—

Premises	Number On Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	49	93	6	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	171	226	12	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	220	319	18	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found :—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	8	8	—	4	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	1	1	—	2	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	3	3	—	4	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	8	8	—	6	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	4	4	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	24	24	—	16	—
Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)					
Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)					Nil

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1948

*To the Chairman and Members
of the Urban District Council of Esher.*

May, 1949.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my nineteenth Annual Report upon the work of your Sanitary Inspectors for the year 1948.

The report is compiled in accordance with the directions contained in a memorandum from the Ministry of Health and as required by Article XXVII (18) of the Sanitary Officers Order, 1935.

It follows the lines of previous reports and, with one or two exceptions, is tabulated.

COMPLAINTS

During the year under review 244 complaints were received and all were investigated.

INSPECTION OF DISTRICT

Number of houses and premises inspected	1189
Number of houses and premises re-inspected	2420
Number of miscellaneous visits	272
Number of visits to works in progress	211
Number of visits to dairies, cowsheds and milkshops ...	89
Number of visits to bakehouses	59
Number of visits to factories	260
Number of visits re disinfection	70
Number of visits re cases of infectious disease ...	55
Number of visits re disinfestation	108
Visits re schools	9
Visits re Housing	5
Visits re Food and Drugs Act, 1938	154
Visits re Milk Sampling	43
Visits re Water Sampling	6
Visits to Foodshops	263
Visits to Piggeries	10
Visits re Water Supply	2
Visits re Ice Cream	26
Visits re Caravans	144
Outworkers' premises	6
Shops Act	21

NOTICES SERVED

Informal Notices	394
Informal Notices, Factories	18
Abatement Notices in respect of nuisances, Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93	45
Abatement Notices to provide covered dustbins for house refuse	16
Abatement Notice under Section 50 Public Health Act, 1936, as to overflowing or leaking cesspools	1

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT :—

DRAINAGE SYSTEMS

Repaired, cleansed, etc.	67
Partly relaid	16
Stoppers fixed in intercepting traps	2
Completely relaid	12
Additional provided	5
Gullies fixed or repaired	10
Intercepted from sewer	1
Cesspools and ditches emptied and cleansed	9
Curbing around gullies repaired or renewed	13

MANHOLES

New provided	15
New covers fixed	15
Altered or repaired	5
Cleared and Cleansed	3

VENTILATING SHAFTS

Mica flap valves fixed or repaired	6
Repaired	7
New fixed	3

SOIL PIPES

Repaired	13
New fixed	1

WATER CLOSETS

Rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Additional provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
New pans fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Pans cleansed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
New flushing cisterns fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Seats repaired or new provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Internal walls rendered or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Lighted or ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Anti-syphonage pipes provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Water supply re-instated or provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Ceilings provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

SINKS, BATHS, ETC.

New fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Additional provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

WASTE PIPES, ETC.

Flush pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
New provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Disconnected or trapped	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

RAINWATER PIPES

Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
New provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

WATER SUPPLY

New storage tanks fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Water reinstated or laid on	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Service pipes repaired, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Draw off taps disconnected	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Wells lined	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Ball valves repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

DUST RECEPTACLES

Provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	275
Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

DAMPNESS

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Ventilation provided under floors	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
External walls pointed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
External walls rendered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	29
House walls treated with solution	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Sills repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Damp course fixed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Site of house concreted	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

GENERAL REPAIRS

External walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
House floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	125
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
Ranges or coppers repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Internal walls repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	287
Ceilings provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	135
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	121
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Sashcords renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Handrail provided to staircase	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Windows made to open	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Skirting repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Rooms Ventilated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Additional window provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Animals removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

PAVING, ETC.

Yard paved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Yards cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

FOOD

As mentioned in previous reports, the slaughtering of food animals in this district has practically ceased.

Occasional slaughter of animals takes place by permission of the Food Executive Officers of the Esher Food Control Committee.

Food premises have been regularly visited and invariably found satisfactory.

Appended is a list giving details of the class and quantity of food condemned as unfit for human consumption.

In many cases this food was utilised for animal feeding, or, in compliance with the directions of the Ministry of Food, the material was returned through the suppliers to the recognised salvage organisation for reprocessing. In a few cases it was found necessary to be destroyed.

The following table shows the number of visits to shops for the purpose of food inspection, and the comparison of the number of these visits with the previous five years is interesting :—

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948
To slaughterhouses ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
To foodshops ...	336	547	231	284	231	263

The following number of carcasses were examined :—

Pigs	...	...	...	...	33
Calves	...	...	...	...	1

There were seven slaughtermen on the Register at the end of the year.

The following diseased or otherwise unsound meat and food was surrendered and destroyed or dealt with as previously mentioned :—

	lbs.		lbs.
Beef	112	Mixed Salad	4
Biscuits	1	Pigs (Head)	12
Cake	45½	Pigs (Lungs)	2
Cheese	25½	Potatoes	336
Confectionery	3½	Poultry Offal	23½
Cooked Meat	3½	Prunes	28½
Flour	23	Sausages	18
Fish	1299½	Sausage	6
Macaroni	14	Sugar	1

TINNED, BOTTLED AND OTHER FOOD:—

Bacon	...	...	24 tins	M. and V. Ration	...	7 tins
Beans	...	...	22 tins	Mixed Vegetables	...	7 tins
Beef	...	...	3 tins	Orange Juice	...	167 tins
Biscuits	...	...	5 packets	Oats Porridge	...	1 packet
Broth	...	...	1 tin	Peaches	...	5 tins
Beetroot	...	...	16 tins	Pears	...	5 tins
Cheese — Camembert	...	...	9 packets	Pickles	...	65 jars
Cheese	...	...	1 tin	Pineapple Juice	...	1 tin
Chicken	...	...	1 tin	Peas	...	61 tins
Coffee	...	...	1 bottle	Pea flour	...	17 packets
Dates	...	...	10 boxes	Plums	...	14 tins
Dried Eggs	...	...	6 tins	Preserves	...	128 jars
Eggs	...	...	25	Pudding Mixture	...	1 packet
Fish	...	...	119 tins	Puddings	...	3 tins
Fish Paste	...	...	6 jars	Rusks	...	6 packets
Fruit	...	...	19 tins	Sauce	...	22 bottles
Gherkins	...	...	2 jars	Sausages	...	6 tins
Grapefruit	...	...	29 tins	Soup	...	42 tins
Luncheon Meat	...	...	60 tins	Stewed Steak	...	15 tins
Milk	...	...	370 tins	Tomato Juice	...	31 tins
Mincemeat	...	...	1 jar	Tongues	...	9 tins
Meat	...	...	7 tins	Vegetables	...	52 tins
Meat Paste	...	...	2 tins			

MILK SUPPLY

The farms, cowsheds and dairies have been inspected from time to time during the year.

Samples of milk have been taken for bacteriological examination, for microscopic and biological tests for tuberculosis and the phosphatase test for detecting imperfect pasteurisation.

The results of the samples taken for the year under review are tabulated below :—

	Total	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
Samples of raw milk submitted for bacteriological examination and for the detection of Tubercle bacilli	29	22	7	6 contained Tubercle bacilli 1 contained B. Coli.
Samples of raw milk submitted for the detection of Tubercle bacilli	19	14	5	
Samples submitted for the Phosphatase test	57	52	5	
	105	88	17	

In the six cases where tubercle bacilli were found the results were passed to the County Medical Officer of Health and the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The herds involved were examined and the following information was given by the veterinary inspector. In two cases further sampling was carried out but no cow was actually found to be suffering from tuberculosis. In two other instances the animals in question were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938. In the remaining two occurrences the cows had been sent for slaughter after the original sampling and prior to the result of the examination being received.

It has been remarked in previous reports that it is a serious disadvantage to the tracing of tuberculous animals that there is a time lag of six to eight weeks between the taking of the sample and the final result being received. This is due to the fact that an animal experiment is required. It is hoped that impending legislation will remedy this position.

ICE CREAM

Results of Ice Cream Sampling for Bacteriological Examination :—

Sample No.	B. Coli.	Methylene Blue Test	Provisional Grade
71	Positive in three tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml.	Decolourised at end of 3 hours	II
72	Ditto	Not decolourised at end of 4½ hours	I
73	Absent	Ditto	I
74	Positive in three tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml.	Decolourised at end of 2½ hours	II
80	Absent	Not decolourised at end of 4½ hours	I
81	Positive in three tubes inoculated with 1/10 ml.	Decolourised at end of 1 hour	III
82	Coliforms present in 1/10 ml. Faecal Coli absent	Decolourised at end of 0 hour	IV
83	Ditto	Ditto	IV
84	Ditto	Ditto	IV
85	Ditto	Decolourised at end of 1 hour	III
86	Absent	Not decolourised at end of 4½ hours	I
87	Coliforms present in 1/10 ml. Faecal Coli absent	Decolourised at end of 2½ hours	II
91	Coliforms present in 1/10 ml. Faecal Coli absent	Decolourised at end of 2½ hours	II
95	Absent	Decolourised at end of 1 hour	III
96	Absent	Decolourised at end of 2 hours	III
97	Coliforms present in 1/10 ml. Plate count more than 1 million per ml. Faecal Coli absent	—	—
119	Coliforms present in 1/10 ml. Colony count 231,000 per ml. Faecal Coli absent	—	—
120	Coliforms present in 1/10 ml. Faecal Coli absent	Decolourised at end of ½ hour	III
121	Ditto	Ditto	III
122	Ditto	Decolourised at end of 1½ hours	III
123	Ditto	Decolourised at end of 4 hours	II

Sample No.	B. Coli.	Methylene Blue Test	Provisional Grade
124	Coliforms present in 1/10 ml. Faecal Coli present	Decolourised at end of 3½ hours	II
128	Coliforms present in 1/10 ml. Faecal Coli absent	Decolourised at end of ½ hour	III
131	Coliforms present in 1/10 ml. Faecal Coli present	Not decolourised at end of 4½ hours	I
132	Coliforms present in 1/10 ml. Faecal Coli absent	Decolourised at end of ½ hour	III
133	Coliforms present in 1/10 ml. Faecal Coli absent	Decolourised at end of 2½ hours	II

NOTE:—Samples Nos. 71, 96 and 133 were from the same manufacturer.

..	..	72 and 97	..	..	..	..
..	..	73 and 86	..	..	..	..
..	..	74, 87 and 124	..	..	..	..
..	..	81, 91 and 128	..	..	..	..
..	..	82 and 121	..	..	..	..
..	..	95 and 123	..	..	..	..

NOTE:—The provisional grades which are referred to above are those introduced by the Ministry of Health. They are based on the number of organisms in the ice cream absorbing oxygen, and this is shown by the reduction of colour in Methylene Blue, which is an aniline dye.

After incubation, the quicker the reduction of the colour, the poorer the quality of the ice cream.

The four grades recommended are as follows:—

Grade I (Best quality)	time taken to reduce methylene blue	4½hrs. or over.
Grade II	.. .. .	2½hrs. to 4hrs.
Grade III	.. .. .	½hr. to 2hrs.
Grade IV	.. .. .	0hrs.

The methylene blue test does not indicate the types of organisms present, but shows the number of organisms as a whole present in the ice cream.

It could be said to show the bacterial cleanliness of the ice cream.

The two samples which are not graded were strawberry flavoured and it is understood that the Methylene Blue does not react upon a coloured sample of ice cream.

The above results are better than those of last year, but it will be seen that there is still considerable need for improvement as the percentage figures for 1948 compared with those for 1947 are as follows:—

1948			1947		
Grade I	...	21.736%	Grade I	...	13.33%
Grade II	...	26.087%	Grade II	...	00.00%
Grade III	...	39.132%	Grade III	...	46.666%
Grade IV	...	13.045%	Grade IV	...	40.00%

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Sampling has been continued throughout the year, a total of 154 samples of various foods and drugs having been obtained and submitted to the Council's Public Analyst.

This total represents an average of 3.03 samples per 1,000 of the population based on the Registrar General's estimated population figure of 50,790 for 1948.

The following table gives details of the samples obtained :—

	Informal	Formal
Aspirin	2	—
Baking Powder	1	—
Beer	—	12
Bloater Paste	1	—
Biscuits	2	—
Biscuits, chocolate	2	—
Brandy	—	1
Bread	3	—
Butter	—	13
Chocolate Laxative	1	—
Cider	1	1
Cinnamon and Formalin Tablets	1	—
Cloves, ground	1	—
Coffee	2	—
Confectionery	6	—
Cough Candy	1	—
Cough Mixture	1	—
Cremola Pudding	1	—
Curry Powder	3	—
Custard Flavouring	1	—
Epsom Salts	1	—
Flour, pea	1	—
Flour, self-raising	1	—
Fruit Salt	1	—
Gin	—	4
Grape Puree	1	—
Grapefruit Squash	1	—
Horseradish Cream	1	—
Jam	2	1
Junket Rennet	1	—
Lemonade Crystals	1	—
Lemon Squash	2	—
Liver Salts	1	—
Malted Milk	1	—
Margarine	—	2

Continued.

							Informal	Formal
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	36
Mustard	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Mustard Sauce	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Olive Oil	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Orange Squash	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Paraffin, liquid	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Parsley Dried	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Pepper	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Pineapple Juice	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Port, Tawney	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Rennet, Essence of	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Rum	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Sausage, Beef	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Sauce, Worcester	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Semolina	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Sherry	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Spice, Pickling	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Soup, Brown	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Stout	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Table Dessert, orange flavour	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Vinegar	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Whiskey	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	4
Total							74	80

Genuine ... 148 Not genuine ... 6 Total ... 154

The following statement gives details of the samples reported upon adversely by the Public Analyst :—

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Article.</i> (<i>F, formal; I, informal</i>)	<i>Details of Irregularity.</i>	<i>Action Taken.</i>
57	I. Pea flour.	The article was mouldy and unfit for human consumption.	Remainder of stock, which was old, was surrendered by vendor and destroyed.
65	I. Wholemeal bread.	The sample was one of "ropy" bread unfit for human consumption.	This was an isolated case of a "ropy" loaf. The bakehouse was visited and the vendor interviewed. Bakehouse, bread store and flour store thoroughly cleansed.
71	F. Milk.	The sample was 1% deficient in milk fat.	The Council decided not to prosecute but to send a warning letter, having heard vendor's explanation.
134 and 135	Pineapple juice.	Contained foreign particles consisting of coal or coke dust.	As this article was canned in South Africa the Canned Fruit and Vegetable Division of the Ministry of Food was communicated with, asking them to take up the matter with the authorities in South Africa. The letter was dated 10th December last. Letter of explanation dated 2/3/49 received from canners, which was accepted.

FACTORIES

The number of visits paid under the Factories Act, 1937, was 319.

34 to Bakehouses.

78 to other Factory premises.

Twenty Bakehouses have mechanical power and eight are without mechanical power. There are no underground bakehouses.

The following gives a more detailed classification of the factories in the district with mechanical power :—

Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	20
Beer, Wine, Spirit and Mineral Water Bottling	...				3
Boat Builders	...	...	...	...	3
Boot and Shoe Repairers	...	...	...	...	8
Builders	...	...	...	...	6
Brickmakers, Fireplaces and Concrete Moulding	...				7
Cycle Repairers	...	...	...	...	3
Cleaners	...	...	...	...	3
Dressmaking	...	...	...	...	2
Electrical Products	...	...	...	...	5
Fancy Goods and Toy Manufacturing	...	...	...	...	2
Joinery, Woodworking, etc.	...	...	...	...	7
Laundry	...	...	...	...	3
Light Engineering Works	...	...	...	...	32
Metal Workers	...	...	...	...	4
Motor Vehicle Repairers	...	...	...	...	22
Plastics	...	...	...	...	4
Printing, Bookbinding, etc.	...	...	...	...	5
Tent and Sail Makers	...	...	...	...	3
Timber and Wood Merchants	...	...	...	...	5
Wireless Manufacturing or Repairing	...	...	...	...	7
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	17
					<hr/> 171 <hr/>

Without mechanical power :—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	8
Building and Decorating	...	...	...	...	10
Cake Shops	...	...	...	...	4
Dressmaking and Tailoring	...	...	...	...	4
Electrical Repairers	...	...	...	...	3
Joinery, Cabinet Making, etc.	...	...	...	...	4
Lampshade Makers	...	...	...	...	2
Wireless Repairers	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	12
					<hr/> 49 <hr/>
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	59

During the year an effort was made to revise and bring up to date the register of factories and the above is a fairly accurate list as at the end of the year. At the same time enquiries were made to ascertain if certain of them possessed Certificates as to means of escape in case of fire as provided by Section 34 of the Factories Act, 1937.

During the year 27 Certificates were issued.

SHOPS ACT, 1912—1935

No complaints were received as to contravention of the Acts.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS

At the end of the year there were 53 persons on the Register as follows :—

Retail Purveyors and Producers of Milk	...	...	5
Wholesale Producers only	...	...	24
Milkshops in the District	...	...	19
Purveyors retailing milk from outside the district	...	...	5
			<hr/>
			53
			<hr/>

There were 25 Cowkeepers in the district and the approximate number of milch cows kept by them is 618.

The 25 dairy farms are situate in the following Wards :—

Claygate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Cobham	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Esher	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Stoke D'Abernon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Thames Ditton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
								<hr/>
								25
								<hr/>

At the end of the year there were nine farms producing "Accredited" Milk, the cowkeepers of which had been placed on the Roll of Accredited Producers and six producing "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

The dairies, cowsheds and milkshops have been periodically inspected and the half-yearly limewashing carried out.

Licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938, have been issued as follows :—

Dealers' Licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	...	9
Dealers' Licences to sell "Pasteurised" Milk	...	15
Supplementary Licences to sell "Tuberculin Tested" Milk	...	4
Supplementary Licences to sell "Pasteurised" Milk	...	6

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Last year reference was made to a special report upon this subject presented to the Public Health Committee by the Medical Officer of Health and myself mentioning particularly the Palace Estate.

Since that time events have been moving towards an improvement in this Estate which it is hoped will give the Council a larger measure of control, especially as it has been decided to acquire the Estate for future development.

At least twenty caravans have moved off the site during the year, and by an arrangement with the Estate owners when this happens, other dwellings are not allowed to come on to the vacant site.

Portable galvanised iron dustbins have been provided at each caravan and there is now a regular collection of house refuse carried out by the Council, thus eliminating the necessity of depositing house refuse in indiscriminate heaps on the Estate as has been the practice in the past.

There are a few caravans scattered about the district other than the bulk at Palace Estate and all have been inspected from time to time to see that the Bye-laws dealing with this class of dwelling are complied with.

Another matter calling for comment was that of obtaining two Orders prohibiting the stationing of moveable dwellings within certain areas of the district. For many years gipsies had been in the habit at certain seasons of the year of coming into the district and remaining with their caravans parked on the commons and roadside waste in the picturesque lanes of some of the rural parts of this lovely district. They did considerable damage and left their mark in no uncertain manner. Your Council was successful in obtaining Orders in the County Magistrates' Court under the provisions of Section 57 of the Surrey County Council Act, 1931 and 1936, and now the locality including Love Lane, Long Ditton, Woodstock Lane, at Long Ditton and Claygate, and Fair Oak Lane, at Oxshott, are protected.

SPRAYING PONDS AND DITCHES

The systematic spraying of ponds, ditches, water courses and water holes in the district with Mosquito Oil has been carried out as in previous years.

In conclusion, I desire to place on record my appreciation of the support given by everyone in the Department and to thank the officers and staff of other Departments of the Council for their ready co-operation and helpfulness.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

REGINALD F. WHEELER,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

